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Monday, October 1, 2012

THE MORNING NEWS

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Republican McCain steps up attack on Obama over Libya

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Top Republican Senator John McCain yesterday joined other members of his party in attacking Washington's shifting explanations of the September 11

assault that killed the US ambassador to Libya.

McCain, interviewed on CNN's "State of the Union" show, hinted at "certain political overtones" in the adminis-

tration's initial claim that the assault was part of a spontaneous anti-American demonstration.

His comments were the latest thrust in a what appears to be a coordinated Republican effort to undermine Obama on foreign policy, seen as his strong point and a big weakness for Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney.

UN ambassador Susan Rice on September 15 said the hours-long assault with mortars and rocket-propelled grenades on the US consulate in Benghazi was part of a spontaneous demonstration over an amateurish video that mocked the prophet Mohammed. Four Americans, including Ambassador Chris Stevens, died in the assault.

But that explanation was revised over the next weeks, and by Friday the Office of the Director of National Intelligence said that the consulate attack was planned and linked to Al-Qaeda, but stressed that "many unanswered questions" remained.

The administration's initial explanation for the attack was flat wrong, said McCain. "That doesn't pass the smell test," he said.

Expect stricter action for traffic violations henceforth

ORANJESTAD -- In a recent publication, the Aruba Police announced that they will be acting stricter than ever against those who violate our traffic laws. These stricter measures will become effective as of today, October 1st. With much more force in accordance with our existing laws the police will demand that all motorists and others abide by the traffic laws. The stricter measures apply in particular to those driving without the necessary documents (driver's license, safety inspection, tax and insurance). Driving a vehicle without insurance, or without a driver's license or without having paid the auto



tax is a common practice on Aruba and the Ministry of Public Order wants to put a stop to this.

In order to deal with this matter, traffic violation fines will be substantially increased and vehicles will be confiscated much faster and put in custody, or under embargo. A vehicle under embargo may be released to its owner only after all documentation is in order and all embargo fees and towing expenses are paid in full. Towing fees will be Afls.175. Fee for confiscating a vehicle and putting it under embargo at Balashi will cost Afls.25 per day.

Vehicles will be confiscated when:

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- driving without automobile insurance
- driving under the influence of alcohol or other substances

stance

Vehicles will be placed under embargo when:

- there is no safety inspection certificate
- driving without automobile insurance
- driving a vehicle under age as a minor
- driving faster than the allowed maximum speed limit

All motorists must take note of the above measures. As of today, anyone violating these traffic laws, the police will confiscate their vehicle and have it stored in Balashi. This means that the owner of the vehicle will be deprived of his transportation for some time.

All of this simply means that the traffic laws will be enforced with greater strictness and fines will be much higher, making violations much more painful. Then, again, if everyone adheres to the laws there will be no need for these measures.

International Day of Older Persons is today



ORANJESTAD – Since 1991, the United Nations' International Day of Older Persons is celebrated annually on October 1, to recognize the contributions of senior citizens and examine issues that affect their lives. This year's theme is "Longevity: Shaping the Future." Aruba also celebrates this day. Minister of Economic & Social Affairs and Culture, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar, honored Aruba's elderly by visiting various care centers where they reside. Photo shows the minister talking with 101-year old Maria Annette Maduro at one of the elderly homes.



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Pointers to Ponder

Tony A.D. Green www.people-self-development.com



Autistic Children can destroy any good Marriage

This past week, we gave deserved attention to Autism. Organizations planned special activities and even a fundraising event was launched to support the Aruba Autism Foundation. The emphasis on Autism is important because those suffering from autism in our community, our autistic children, deserve this attention as they too are significant members of our community.

What has always annoyed me is the fact that while autistic children are brought into focus, and information is disseminated about what the problem is, what the symptoms are, and what treatment and care to give, nothing is ever said about those who care for these children. All autistic children live with a family, many have siblings, and all have a mother and a father. In this article, I want to take the time to put the focus on the parents of an autistic child.

Unfortunately, in modern times, many marriages end in divorce or separation. This sta-



tistic rises even higher when you mix in an autistic child. No matter how loving and understanding a mother and father can be towards an autistic child, the truth is that autism is a very difficult matter, and in many homes marriages suffer the strain of caring for an autistic child. It takes great skill, a mountain of patience and a lot of discipline to keep a marriage thriving and when you add an autistic child to that, you can only expect chaos...if the couple is not careful. Staying positive and doing everything to keep your marriage

healthy will require a lot of help.

The big question you're probably asking now is: how can we do this, that is, raise an autistic child and avoid marital problems and survive the trying times of raising our autistic child?

Let me suggest a few things that will help:

1. Begin by asking and answering this crucial question - why did I marry this man/woman?

The answer to this question will help you focus on the good things in your marriage relationship. Your reason for being together is not the autistic child, so that the autistic child cannot or should never be a reason for you to not stay together. We know that raising an autistic child in a family is very, very stressful. And, when you are stressed out, you have the tendency to snap at your spouse for the stupidest things. What you want to do instead is to focus on the good things in your life. Plan on taking time to enjoy your spouse the way you did at the beginning of your relationship.

2. Involve significant others in the child's life:

As soon as you discover that your child is autistic, you must plan that the two of you will not be the only two persons to interact with your child. The child must have others, preferably significant others like, grandparent, uncle, aunt, cousin, older sibling who will also be spending time with your autistic child. You may also consider a live-in sitter (nanny).

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Fine dining under the stars ends Culinary Month at Paseo Herencia



Chef Shashank Agtey and his seafood medley

Paseo Herencia's inaugural Culinary Month ended with a congenial evening in the Plaza Padu to a packed house. "We are very pleased with the reaction to our first effort to put some spark into the traditionally quiet month of September," commented Paseo Herencia Marking and P/R Manager Candy Rasmijn-Reino. "It was exciting to showcase our local culinary young star, Ever de Pena, and we are most grateful to Chef Antonio, "Jose-lito" Albertsz for his efforts in organizing the Sabor 2012 event."

Paseo Herencia also expressed their gratitude to all their vendors, Iguana Cantina, Nobushi, Le Bistro, Sky Lounge, Mauta Grill and TGI Friday's for their enthusiastic participation every Saturday. Visitor enjoy mellow music and sample great food and wine from Arion Wine Company.

Continued on page 4



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Pointers: Autistic Children can destroy...

Continued from page 2

The reason for this is two-fold, you get time alone with your spouse, and the child develops other dynamics picked up from other persons in his/her life that will contribute positively to their development.

3. Team effort is crucial in raising an autistic child: You must determine to work together as a team on raising your autistic child. Both parents have a significant role to play. The mother is responsible for certain nurturing roles and the father for certain disciplinary and developmental roles, but both roles must overlap and synchronize for the best development of the child. By working together as a team, you will be giving the child the best opportunities for his/her development.

4. Take quality and significant time out for yourself:

If you are the primary care giver of the autistic child, you must set aside sufficient time every day for yourself to be alone without the child. When you do this, you obviously have arranged for the child to

be in the expert care of another trusted person. At the same time, you should also plan time to be together as a whole family.

5. Trust God for the wisdom and patience needed:

One other suggestion is to not travel the road of raising an autistic child without getting wise counsel and advice. Get help when you need it, and my guess is that you will need it often. You will need help with raising your autistic child and you will need help with your marriage. In any successful marriage you need to spend time apart to focus on individual needs, and this is no different when you have an autistic child. But, if you find that you and your spouse are not happy unless you are spending time alone, a red light must go on to tell you that your relationship is on slippery ground. Again, seek help from a wise counselor; trust God for wisdom to know what to do.

You must make every effort to keep your marriage happy even when you are stressed out from taking care

of an autistic child.

6. Get involved in out-of-the-house activities:

My final word of counsel is to get involved with other families who have an autistic child. As you interact with them you will learn from each other. They will become an important support source in your life. It is also important for you to get involved in out-of-the-house activities, like the movies, a sport, or church activities. You might want to start learning to play a musical instrument. These activities will help bring balance into your life so that your only focus is not your autistic child.

Remember, God knows your struggles better than anyone else, and He can give you the strength, the stamina and patience you need to see you through the difficult years of raising an autistic child...trust Him wholeheartedly and experience His marvelous peace!

If this was helpful, let me know: tonygreen.morningnews@hotmail.com, Thanks.

Free Zone Aruba launches new investment brochure



On Thursday September 27, 2012, Free Zone Aruba launched its new general information brochure. The Free Zone team proudly presented the new general information investment brochure to Minister Mike de Meza, responsible for Aruba's Free Zone. Minister De Meza was delighted with the new investment brochure and lauded the team for its efforts.

The investment brochure counts 26 pages covering 13 chapters of important information. It guides investors to recognizing business opportunities, to understand how Free Zone Aruba works, and lines out matters such as costs, fees and procedures.

Free Zone Aruba has also enhanced its presence in the world of social media. Free Zone Aruba can be found via LinkedIn, on Facebook and twitter. A blog has been developed and recently also launched its renewed website www.freezonearuba.com.

Picture shows the Free Zone Team presenting Minister de Meza its new general information investment brochure. From left to right: Corry Caster, Accounting Executive; Minister Mike de Meza, Anika Stevens, Marketing Manager; Greg Peterson, Managing Director; Mercedes Levenstone, Office Manager and Betty Heyliger, Accounting Executive.



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Strong quake strikes southwest Colombia

BOGOTA (AFP) - A strong magnitude 7.1 earthquake struck in the Andes mountains of south-west Colombia yesterday but there were no immediate reports of injuries or serious damage, Colombian and US earthquake monitoring services reported.

The quake struck at some 20 kilometers east of the

Colombian town of La Vega and 326 kilometers north-east of Quito, Ecuador, said the US Geological Service, which monitors earthquakes worldwide.

In Colombia, the National Seismological Network reported the same magnitude and said the epicenter of the quake was 169 kilometers under-

ground.

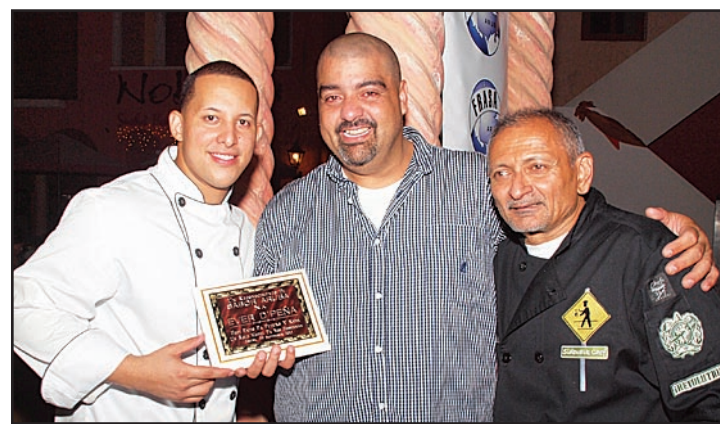
The director of Colombia's disaster relief service, Carlos Ivan Marquez, said that so far there were only reports of minor damage to homes in one village.

In Colombia the quake was felt in 10 central and western provinces.

There was no tsunami alert.

Fine dining under the stars...

Continued from page 2



Ever de Pena honored by Sabor 2012



Romar Trading and Balashi Brewery were principal sponsors the final night. Imported Celebrity Chef Shashank Agtey, who authored "The Sidewalk Chef," joined Ever and the students and staff of Aruba's EPI Culinary Institute in preparing a fabulous meal for VIP ticket holders.

The gathering feasted on Shashank's Seafood Medley, loaded with shrimp, clams, calamari and fish in a fusion of flavors. Other offerings prepared by Chef Joselito and Chef Alvin Leest of the EPI included Oyster Soup, BBQ pork loin, roast beef, Ever's Fresh Snapper Creole, and an exotic blend of side dishes, perfectly complimented by fine wines, or the preferred favorite, locally brewed Balahi beer and Balashi Chill. Ever, a graduate of the EPI School, is about to open Ike's Place in the Manchebo Beach Resort.

Casinger's Sweet Band put

on a terrific show. The evening was marred by news that Chef Joselito was rushed to the hospital just prior to serving time, believed to have had a heart attack at his hotel. Much to everyone's joy, he was there for the final moments to present Ever de Pena with a plaque of gratitude for his participation in the event. Ever and Shashank took the reigns at serving time with the philosophy the show must go on, providing all present with a memorable and tasty evening.

Much to everyone's joy, it is uncertain of the causes for Chef's Joselito's collapse, perhaps stress and heat exhaustion from the demands of the preparation, but he was in fine fettle for the finish. It was truly the perfect ending for this exciting night, adding drama to this feast for the senses, but all well that ends well.

by Rosalie Klein

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Expo Cas 2012: Dedicated to the art of living well



Minister Sevinger and Stanley Brown

Multi Media International hosted another successful construction, remodeling and real estate expo at the Renaissance Convention Center this past weekend, welcoming Aruba's Minister of Infrastructure, Environment and Integration, Benny Sevinger to officially open the event on Friday, September 28.

The Minister was led on a personal tour by Stanley Brown of Multi Media. He remarked he was very impressed with the various exhibits, particularly as various methods were introduced allowing households to install personal means of har-

nessing renewable energies, a subject close to the heart of the Minister of Environment.

Along with various systems for solar energy being on display, a large number of the companies were dedicated to the various technologies for reducing energy use and cost. LED lighting, energy efficient air-conditioning, and appliances, plus incentives from ELMAR, Aruba's energy distribution network, were explained and offered at special money saving rates. The event provided consumers with the information they need to save money and contribute to the goal of Aruba's independence from oil.

This year, Expo Cas hosted a record 92 exhibitors, offering homeowners everything from pest control complete homes, with banks ready to explain mortgage eligibility and current interest rates. Everything one needed to know to buy, build or remodel a home, finish and furnish, cool it and control energy costs, while protecting and preserving their investment, was under one roof for three exciting, informative days.



Minister Sevinger and the Office Systems crew



Solar Kit Info				
System	Price Afl.	Production	Area	Nr of
Size	Uninstalled	kWh/month	in m ²	Panels
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Solar kit prices from Elmar

by Rosalie Klein



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Saudi group to set up Syrian refugee camp in Turkey within month



A Saudi charity group will build a container city that can house 10,000 Syrian refugees in Turkey's Kilis province near the border, a Turkish official said on the weekend.

The project of the Saudi National Campaign to Support Brothers in Syria is expected to be ready within a month, the official told AFP.

When opened, it will be the second camp in Kilis, already home to the largest container city for 12,000 refugees.

The Saudi organization will also set up a prefabricated hospital, said the official, declining to give funding figures.

The kingdom has taken a strong stance against the escalating bloodshed in Syria and thrown support behind the Syrian opposition.

The OPEC kingpin and other energy-rich nations of the Gulf have long demanded that Syrian President Bashar al-Assad step down while voicing support for the rebels calling for his ouster since March 2011.

Turkey shelters more than 80,000 registered refugees in several camps in the southeast region bordering Syria as well as army defectors.

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The Philippines says Western embassies secured after alert

MANILA (AFP) - The Philippines said yesterday it had moved to secure Western embassies in the country as it monitors potential threats to their citizens following a security alert raised last week.

On Friday, the US embassy warned that an unspecified threat against Americans in the capital Manila had been detected by "reliable security forces".

Britain, Canada and Australia on Saturday joined the

US in issuing a security alert, warning Westerners to be on guard amid fears they could get caught up in an attempted attack against Americans.

Philippines deputy presidential spokeswoman Abigail Valte said the US embassy had asked Manila for additional security.

While the US embassy did not elaborate on the threat, Philippine and Western intelligence officials have previously warned that Al Qaeda-linked militants were known to maintain sleeper cells in Manila.

In November 2010, the US government warned of an imminent attack, particularly in areas frequented by foreigners in the capital. This prompted similar travel advisories from Britain, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and France, but the attack never materialised and the government criticised them for hurting the country's

tourism prospects.

Of particular concern to foreign governments is the Abu Sayyaf, a small band of militants founded in the 1990s with seed money from Osama bin Laden. The group is blamed for the country's worst terrorist attacks, including a ferry bombing on Manila Bay that killed over 100 in 2004.

It is also behind a rash of high profile kidnappings targeting Western tourists, missionaries and local business people.

However, the Philippine military with help from US intelligence has captured or killed many of the Abu Sayyaf's top leaders in the past decade.

Lieutenant General Juancho Sabban, a senior Marine official once tasked with going after the Abu Sayyaf, said yesterday the group's links to foreign terrorists had been cut, though they remained a threat.

Wave of Iraq attacks kills at least 32

BAGHDAD (AFP) - Militants struck nine cities and towns in Iraq with bombings and shootings yesterday, killing at least 32 people and wounding 104, in the latest wave of deadly attacks to hit the country.

With the latest violence, at least 252 people have been killed and 801 wounded in attacks in Iraq this month, according to an AFP tally based on official sources.

Insurgents are regarded as weaker than in past years but are still able to carry out spectacular mass-casualty attacks, and have also shown they can strike heavily-protected sites such as prisons, police stations and the anti-terrorism directorate in Baghdad.

Most of yesterday's attacks were centered in Baghdad and the nearby areas of Taji, Madain and Tarmiyah, where an interior ministry official said 25 people were killed and 59 wounded, while medical sources put the toll at 28 dead and 77 wounded.



YANGON – Myanmar leader Thein Sein has said in an interview he would accept democracy champion Aung San Suu Kyi as president if elected, but added he could not alone amend rules that bar her from power. Former general Thein Sein has paid rare tributes to Myanmar's Nobel laureate during a landmark tour of the United States where he has burnished his reformist credentials by insisting that his country will continue its strides towards democracy after decades of army rule.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Isabel Allende receives Denmark's top literary award

COPENHAGEN (AFP) - Chilean novelist Isabel Allende received Denmark's top literary award yesterday, winning the equivalent of 86,000 dollars for her "magical" and spellbinding work, organisers said.

Denmark's Crown Prince Frederik awarded Allende the Hans Christian Andersen Literature Award in the city of Odense, Andersen's birthplace some 150 kilometres (90 miles) west of the capital Copenhagen.

The prize, worth 500,000 Danish kroner (67,000 euros, \$86,000), was awarded "for her qualities as a magical sto-

ryteller and her ability to spell-bind her audience," a statement said.

Accepting the prize which was announced in March, Allende said: "I hope that some of Andersen's magic will rub off on me."

The author of some 19 works in Spanish that have been translated into 35 languages and sold 57 million copies, Allende is the third writer to have been awarded the prize.

Allende follows in the path of Brazil's Paulo Coelho, author of the "Alchemist" who received the award in 2007, and Britain's J.K. Rowling, the

creator of the "Harry Potter" series, who scooped the honour in 2010.

Aged 70, the author of the "House of the Spirits", "Of Love and Shadows", and "Zorro" is the daughter of a diplomat who is the first cousin of Chilean president Salvador Allende, who was toppled and committed suicide in a 1973 military coup.

Allende, who is also a journalist and professor of Latin American literature, has received around 50 prizes in more than 16 countries and defends the cause of women in the world through her foundation.

Assange reveals life inside 'space station' embassy

LONDON (AFP) - WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange is certain he will one day go to Ecuador, he said in an interview published yesterday, describing his life in the Ecuadoran embassy in London as "like being in a space station".

The Australian activist, 41, has been holed up in the embassy since claiming asylum on June 19 in a bid to avoid extradition to Sweden, where he faces questioning over alleged sex crimes.

Assange -- who denies the allegations and fears Sweden would extradite him to the United States -- told Britain's Mail yesterday he was keeping busy by working 17 hours a day on the whistleblowing website.

WikiLeaks deeply embarrassed the US government in 2010 by publishing huge caches of confidential documents on the wars in Iraq and

Afghanistan and more than 250,000 diplomatic cables from US embassies around the world.

Assange supporters claim he could receive harsh treatment if sent to the US and possibly even face the death penalty.

Despite a diplomatic stalemate between Britain and Ecuador over his extradition to Sweden, Assange said he was sure he would eventually go to the Latin American country.

"I think it is inevitable but I will not be marooned there," the former computer hacker told the Mail, which showed him wearing an Ecuadoran shirt with jeans and trainers as he sat in the embassy.

"From Ecuador, me and my staff could safely travel to and from a number of friendly countries such as Tunisia, Egypt, Russia, Brazil, India, Venezuela, Chile and Argentina."

Ecuador granted Assange asylum on August 16 but Britain has denied him safe passage out of the country, and police are guarding the embassy in case he tries to escape.

The WikiLeaks founder said he had spent some of his early days in the embassy "training to use emergency equipment".

The Mail said was not permitted to disclose "the precise nature of the safety equipment he keeps close to his bed, nor of the contents of the documents and diagrams pinned to his wall".

Assange complained that his health was "slowly deteriorating", adding that he had "a racking cough".

Nonetheless, he said he was keeping fit by using a running machine, boxing, and seeing a personal trainer -- reportedly an ex-soldier in Britain's elite SAS turned whistleblower -- every other day.

Amazon under fire over Nazi death camp puzzle

BERLIN (AFP) - Online retail giant Amazon has come under fire over the sale of a jigsaw puzzle that depicts ovens at the crematorium at the Nazi death camp of Dachau, a media report said yesterday.

"This is a real slap in the face for concentration camp survivors and relatives of victims," conservative politician Gerda Hasselfeldt wrote in a letter to Amazon that was cited by Der Spiegel.

The 252-piece puzzle, being sold for \$24.99 or 17.99 British

pounds (about 20 euros), is sold on Amazon's American website as suitable for children aged eight and over, but it is not available for sale on Amazon's German website.

It shows a picture of two ovens at one of the two crematoriums at Dachau, where bodies of prisoners were burned.

Amazon's US media office did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

More than 200,000 Jews, gays, Roma, political opponents, the disabled and prison-

ers of war were imprisoned in Dachau during World War II. Between 32,000 and 43,000 people died in the Bavarian camp before it was liberated by US troops in April 1945.

"The Dachau memorial is a place of remembrance for the suffering of countless victims. It cannot be in Amazon's interest to sell such a game," wrote Hasselfeldt, parliamentary chief of the Christian Social Union of Bavaria, sister party of Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democratic Union.

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Health & Living

Chavez believes he has beaten cancer



CARACAS (AFP) - Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez says he believes he has beaten cancer and will be strong enough to rule for another six years if he wins re-election on October 7.

Speaking aboard an open-air truck Saturday as it wound its way through tens of thousands of supporters who had come to greet their longtime leader in Guarenas, a community east of Caracas, Chavez said in an exclusive interview with AFP that he was ready to govern until at least 2019.

"If I didn't feel strong enough, I wouldn't be here. We're even going to work at a faster pace," said Chavez, who is the frontrunner in a race against opposition leader Henrique Capriles that would give the incumbent his fourth term in office.

Chavez, 58, fell ill with can-

cer in 2011. But the exact nature of the cancer has never been revealed, with officials saying only that he has undergone two operations in Cuba to remove cancerous tumors from his pelvis.

He has also undergone multiple rounds of radiation and chemotherapy in Cuba following the surgeries.

In June, Chavez said a series of tests had shown that his radiation treatment had gone well and that he "will keep living to keep fighting for the country."

Chavez, who receded from public view for weeks as he recovered from his treatment, acknowledged Saturday that he had slowed down the pace of his activities.

"In the early years of government, I did not rest at all, but your body starts telling you that you need to slow down,"

he said, sipping from a small cup of coffee and waving left and right to supporters.

His return to the political spotlight coincided with the start in July of his election campaign against Capriles, 40, who has managed to rise in the polls after several tours of the country during which he campaigned door to door.

The latest poll, by Datanalisis, gives Chavez 49.4 percent -- a 10-point lead over Capriles -- but the challenger has cut the incumbent's lead in half in just four months.

Other polls give Chavez a bigger lead, while some have found a statistical tie.

Chavez said he was convinced he would beat Capriles and vowed to work to consolidate his advantage.

"The most important thing is to widen the gap in order to consolidate the revolution," he said.

The sight of Chavez brought some women to tears as his truck passed through Guarenas, and some threw letters to him, which he patiently gathered together.

"What do you think they feel?" asked the charismatic leader, who has won the support of the poor during his almost 14 years in power by using oil revenues to spend lavishly on social programs.

He acknowledged having "committed errors in applying plans that didn't work the way they should have, especially in public services" -- an area where Capriles has attacked him, capitalizing on the country's infrastructure troubles and water and electricity shortages.

And if he wins next Sunday, will he seek another six-year term in the next elections?

"We'll see. First things first," he said.

US approves under-skin defibrillator



WASHINGTON (AFP) - US health authorities approved a heart defibrillator with leads that can be implanted just under the skin instead of connected directly to the heart.

The new subcutaneous device "uses a lead that is implanted just under the skin along the bottom of the rib cage and breast bone," the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said in a statement.

"Because the lead is placed under the skin rather than through a vein into the heart, a physician can implant the device without accessing a patient's blood vessels or heart and without the need for fluoroscopy," the FDA said.

Until now defibrillators -- small battery-powered devices

that monitor a person's heart rhythm and deliver small electric shocks to restore an irregular rhythm -- were connected directly to the heart.

The delicate operation to implant traditional defibrillators have potentially grave side effects, such as an infection in an already weak patient.

"Some patients with anatomy that makes it challenging to place one of the implantable defibrillators currently on the market may especially benefit from this device," said FDA official Christy Foreman.

The subcutaneous defibrillator is marketed by the US firm Boston Scientific.

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Sci-Tech

Canada bans key substance in 'bath salts' drug



OTTAWA (AFP) - Canada on this week banned the main substance used to make "bath salts," a new and emerging drug linked to a grisly attack in the United States in which a man almost killed another by chewing his face.

The drug -- which as its name suggests resembles regular bath salts in texture -- can spark an often aggressive, psychotic experience for users, including intense hallucinations.

Key to the production of

the drug is a synthetic stimulant known as MDPV, which the new regulations make illegal to possess, traffic, export or import in Canada, except for authorized research and scientific activities.

MDPV is now included in the same category of illicit drugs as heroin and cocaine.

Reports have suggested that a nude assailant who gnawed the face of a homeless man in the US city of Miami in May was likely under the influence of "bath salts."

The white powder -- which can be inhaled, injected or smoked -- is sometimes marketed as ecstasy, according to the Canadian government.

Canadian authorities have noted a recent rise in the use of "bath salts" in provinces along the country's Atlantic coast. In Nova Scotia, police have seized "bath salts" mixed with cannabis.

"This regulatory amendment responds to concerns expressed by health officials about the health and safety risks associated with the use of MDPV, as well as by law enforcement and the Canada Border Services Agency about the substance's growing popularity and availability in Canada," Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq said in a statement.

The ban is "an important step in stopping organized criminal groups from acquiring and profiting from this illegal substance," added Staff Inspector Randy Franks of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

China rocket puts Venezuela satellite into orbit



BEIJING (AFP) - A Chinese rocket on week-end successfully launched a Venezuelan earth-observation satellite into orbit, state media said.

The satellite, dubbed "Generalissimo Francisco de Mi-

randa" after the major Venezuelan independence figure, was launched from the northwest Jiuquan base in the Gobi desert using a 'Long March' class rocket, said Xinhua.

The launch comes four years after the first-ever Venezuelan satellite, named "Simon Bolivar", which was built with Chinese help, was also put into orbit using a Chinese rocket.

Last year, Venezuela announced the new \$140 million satellite would be used to monitor troop movements on the country's borders and illegal mining, as well as study climate change and the environment.

The two countries have forged close economic ties in recent years as leftist Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has sought to reduce dependence on Washington, with top officials overseeing agreements worth billions of dollars in the oil, energy, construction, and technology sectors.

They signed an agreement last week to develop together Las Cristinas in southern Venezuela, one of the world's biggest gold mines, with plans to exploit both the yellow metal and copper there.

Beijing has extended some \$30 billion in credit to Caracas, and Venezuela in turn sells some 640,000 barrels of oil a day to China.

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Spain Floods



MADRID (AFP) - A Spanish man drowned in a failed attempt to rescue a nine-year-old girl who became trapped inside a car during flash flooding in southeastern Spain, a local official said Sunday. Ten people in total have died in Spain in the regions of Andalusia and Murcia due to flash flooding brought on by downpours. The heavy rains have also damaged homes, caused the collapse of two bridges and forced roads to close. Some 500 people were evacuated from their homes on Friday after the torrential rains caused rivers to break their banks and flooded roads and railways but the most have since returned home.

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COMICS



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TV NOSTALGIA

ACROSS

1. Vinous valley
5. Gaze
10. Expediting initials
14. Bemoaner's word
15. Pertaining to a musical sound
16. Fuller Brush man's quest
17. Sitcom about the Petries et al., with "The"
20. Eroded
21. Figure skater Kulik
22. TV's "___ of Wells Fargo"
23. ___ Khan
24. Asian range
26. Where Ginger lived for years
34. Of a region
35. Workbench attachment
36. "Peter Pan" role
37. Farrow of "Peyton Place"
38. Levels a building
39. Arista
40. Gorbachev's domain, once: abbr.
42. "Play ___ It Lays" (Tony Perkins film)
43. Eucharist implement
45. Pugsley's clan
48. Landing spot for ships
49. Cutely naughty kid
50. Act of civil disobedience
53. TV role for Hugh O'Brian
55. Silent bank "employee": abbr.
58. Show about Major Tony

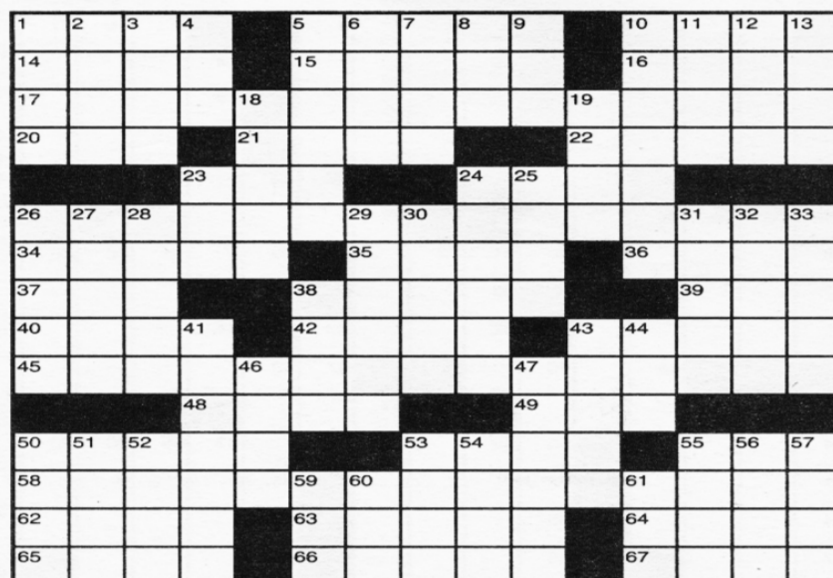
62. Nelson's find
63. Cordelia's dad
64. Buchanan of "Petticoat Junction"
65. "___ Telephone Hour"
66. Actor Bert and kin
67. Amazed

DOWN

1. Zilch, in Xochimilco
2. Got off a horse
3. Tempo
4. Query
5. WWII POW camp
6. Singer Tennille
7. "___ partridge in a pear tree"
8. Actor Milland
9. Antlered

10. Attacks
11. Humorist Mort
12. Lanolin's partner
13. Sunday sleeping spots, for some
18. Devotional watch
19. Greek vowel sounds
23. ___ française
24. Evaluate
25. "True ___" (1994 film)
26. Entire range
27. ___ sweepstakes
28. Rental document
29. Krishna, vis-à-vis Vishnu
30. Turkish soldier
31. Violinmaker

32. Stairway post
33. Pitcher McLain
38. Go by car
41. Duel tools
43. Plain of Argentina
44. Rock and roll gear, for short
46. Actress Merrill
47. Kiln workers
50. Delta material
51. Conception
52. Ambush
53. I preceders
54. Admitting a draft
55. Freshly
56. Ceramic piece
57. Blend
59. Singer Tillis
60. Harem room
61. Nets' gp.



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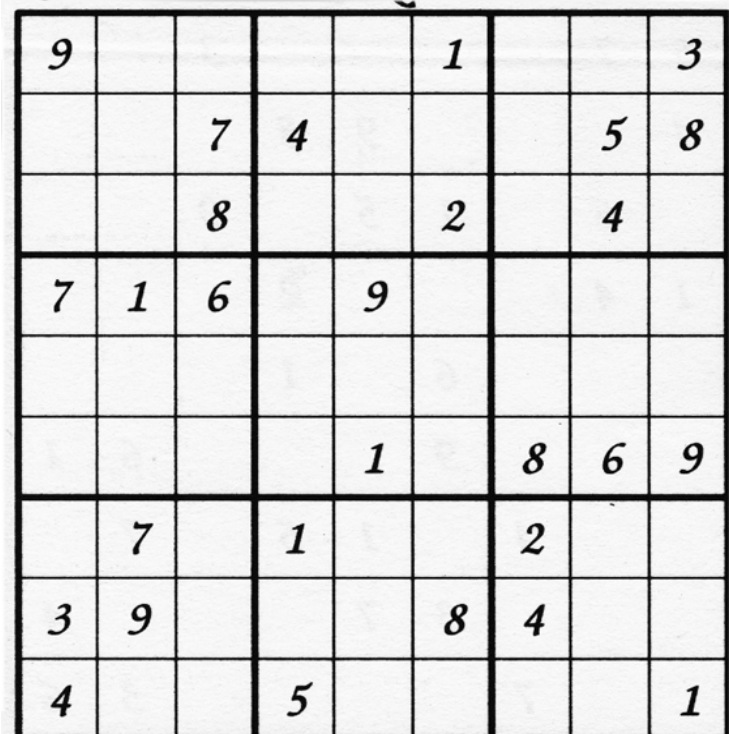
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

1	8	5	6	2	5	2	9	4
5	2	7	8	2	9	1	6	3
9	6	2	5	7	1	5	2	8
6	9	8	2	1	2	5	4	3
4	1	2	5	9	6	8	2	7
2	5	7	6	8	9	1	2	4
2	7	1	2	5	6	8	9	3
8	5	6	9	1	2	4	2	1
5	2	9	1	8	2	7	5	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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BP spill settlement talks stall as U.S. demand \$18 billion

LONDON - Talks between BP and the U.S. government over a settlement for the 2010 oil spill have stalled because the U.S. is insisting that the British oil giant pay at least \$18 billion, British newspaper the Sunday Times reported.

A settlement deal may not happen until early next year, the newspaper quoted sources

close to the company as saying.

A settlement between \$18 billion to \$21 billion is near the level which BP would be required to pay should it be found grossly negligent under the Clean Water Act, said the paper.

BP, which declined to comment on the story, has always denied any liability for the United States' worst offshore

environmental disaster.

Reports in July suggested that the U.S. was looking for a settlement of \$25 billion.

The newspaper said that BP's board is split over whether to pay \$18 billion or continue to push for a settlement at \$15 billion, the level it is widely reported to be hoping to settle at.

Israel: Iran economy "on verge of collapse"

JERUSALEM - Iran's economy is edging towards collapse due to international sanctions over its controversial nuclear program, Israeli Finance Minister Yuval Steinitz said yesterday.

Israel regards the prospect of its arch enemy developing nuclear weapons as a threat to

its existence, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said that, although sanctions are taking their toll, they are not yet forcing Iran to abandon work that could soon lead to a nuclear warhead.

However, Israeli officials appear increasingly ready to

acknowledge the effect of recent American and European sanctions designed to restrict Iran's lifeline oil exports.

"It is not collapsing, but it is on the verge of collapse. The loss of income from oil there is approaching \$45-50 billion by the year's end," Steinitz said.

Spain debt rises on aid to banks, regions, finance cost

MADRID - Spain's debt levels are set to rise next year, piling pressure on the government to apply for aid as it pours funds in to cash-strapped regions, an ailing banking system and rising refinancing costs, its budget showed on the weekend.

Spain's debt as a ratio of gross domestic product will reach 90.5 percent by end 2013, according to the docu-

ment presented to parliament for approval, almost three times that registered before the property bubble burst in 2008.

The budget aims to make savings of around 13 billion euros (\$16.7 billion) next year, largely by deepening already unpopular cuts in public sector wages, education, health and social services, fuelling anti-austerity protests.

FINANCE

France, Germany agree strategy in EADS talks

FRANKFURT - France and Germany have agreed a common strategy for the planned \$45 billion merger of Airbus parent EADS and Britain's BAE Systems, a German magazine reported yesterday.

The plan foresees France and Germany each holding a 9 percent stake in the merged entity, which would be the world's largest defense and aerospace company, Der Spiegel magazine reported, citing high level civil servants.

The Franco-German agreement would form the basis for their negotiations with the British government in talks this week, the magazine added.

A spokesman for German Economy Minister Philipp

Roesler declined to confirm or deny the report.

"The talks are continuing and the relevant questions are still being examined," the spokesman said.

A German government source said that Berlin will present France with a list of proposals, agreed by Chancellor Angela Merkel's office and the economy ministry, that aim to preserve a balance of power between the two countries in the new company.

France directly owns 15 percent of EADS, the maker of Airbus jets, and wants to retain its right to influence group strategy, currently conducted through a complex pact with 7.5-percent shareholder Lagardere

Thousands protest in Paris against EU 'austerity' pact



People dressed in prisoner costumes and holding placards with a picture of France's President Francois Hollande took part in a demonstration called by leftist parties against austerity measures in Paris yesterday. Chanting "Resistance!", protesters marched through central Paris in a rally organisers said was aimed at fighting EU-imposed austerity, not at criticising the government of Socialist President Francois Hollande. (AFP)



Current as 09/30/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.79	1.81	1.83
Britain	GBP	2.82	2.87	2.93
Switzerland	CHF	190.17	190.89	191.69
Netherlands	EUR	228.21	230.29	232.60
Sweden	SEK	26.27	26.99	27.79
Denmark	DKK	29.92	30.64	31.44
Norway	NOK	30.29	31.01	31.81
Japan	JPY	227.37	229.44	231.75

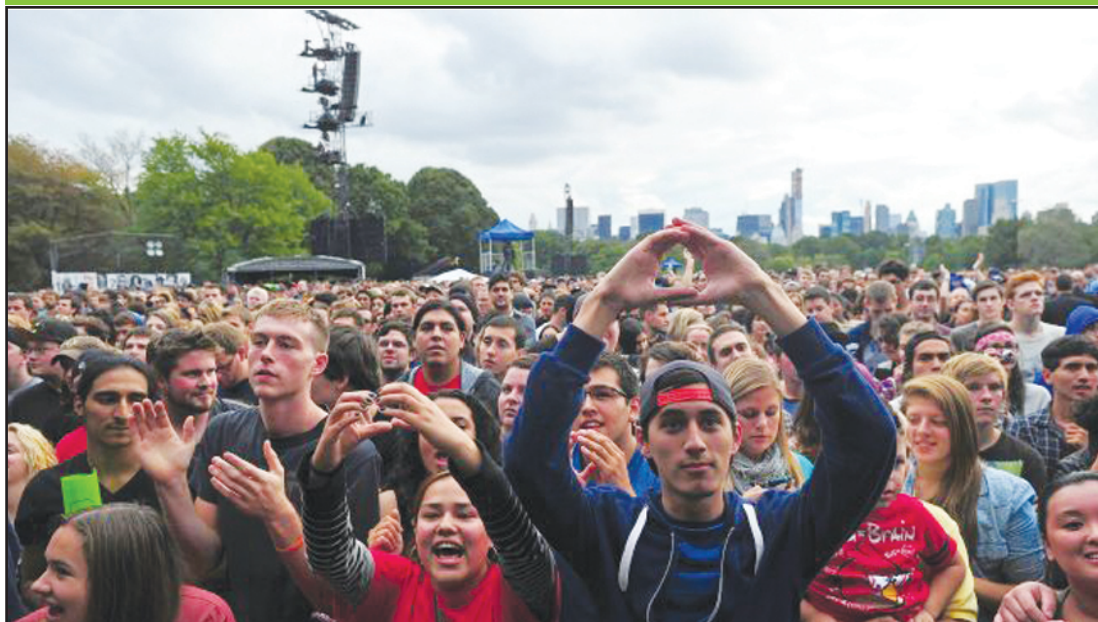
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SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

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SYNG REAM TAHOE
ACCRA TONIC
GOLDIE GEM SLAG
ERE CLEARUP ELL
DEAD SIL SERAPE
ROSIN NORSE
DEWINESS ADS
REATA TEES EAVE
ART CLEARHEADED
PIE KEIRS STEIN
EER SENSE TESLA

Stars rock New York to fight poverty



NEW YORK (AFP) - The Black Keys, Foo Fighters and Neil Young rocked New York's Central Park on Saturday with a free concert highlighting efforts to combat extreme poverty around the world.

An estimated 60,000 people flocked to the Manhattan park's Great Lawn for the event organized by the Global Poverty Project. Unlike past benefit concerts, the main aim was to raise attention, not money.

Tickets were free, but to qualify, online concertgoers had to accumulate points by watching videos on globalcitizen.org about various elements of extreme poverty, ranging from malaria to mothers dying in childbirth.

Points also added up when those applying passed on in-



Guitarist Dan Auerbach, right, and drummer Patrick Carney of The Black Keys perform at the Global Citizen Festival in Central Park.

formation via social networks like Twitter.

The Global Poverty Project says it has more than met its goal of securing pledges worth more than \$500 million this year from aid agencies and other donors, some of which were announced between sets at the concert.

But the concert itself was about bringing the anti-poverty message to ordinary people.

With the United Nations wrapping up its annual General Assembly, this was the perfect moment to push for mass participation in the cause, Global Poverty Project CEO Hugh Evans said.

"Politicians, you know what they do?" Evans licked his finger and stuck it in the air. "They look to see where the wind is blowing. Civil society decides where that wind is blowing," he told journalists near the stage, with the Manhattan skyline in the background.

"We want to build a movement. It can't be just one concert."

In addition to the concert headliners, there was a rendition of John Lennon's "Imagine" by John Legend and performances from K'naan and Band of Horses.

Rockers used the stage to promote the poverty awareness message, helped by short videos on huge screens show-

ing the work of anti-poverty campaigners.

"We believe these problems are solvable. All it takes is the will of the leaders, the will of the people, and that's why we're here," Legend said.

Karen Sullivan, a 43-year-old teacher attending the concert, said she agreed there was a need to get people talking about extreme poverty around the world, and accused the media of failing to spread the word.

"I think people want to know, but don't have the avenues," she said. "People say Americans don't care and I get very angry about that. I think Americans do care. They just don't know what to care about."

Perhaps many in the huge crowd, though, were at least as excited by the one-off opportunity to see their rock gods as by the idea of helping the world's poor.

"Mostly we just wanted to see the Foo Fighters. We got lucky," said fireman Stan Kowalski, 30.

Organizers say they want supporters of the Global Poverty Project to Tweet President Barack Obama and his Republican opponent Mitt Romney with requests for a detailed discussion on foreign policy during the upcoming presidential debates.

Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef



Keshi Yena with plaintains, vegetables and pica

An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varella Innocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine:

The Queen's.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena - "Full Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

Seafood main courses range from Catch of the Day Aruban Style for shrimp and mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or Grilled Tenderloin, each including a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local. They are open from 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. Aside from an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!

15N15

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Healthy, tasty treats on the menu at Lecca Lecca

No foray to Oranjestad is complete without a stop to refresh and refuel at Lecca Lecca, the stylish "Gelato Shoppe" located right in the main bus terminal. This adorable eatery sports a menu that reflects the passion of its owner, Milly Lacle, for "healthy, natural foods, for a healthy body."

The idea of a sweet treat being good for you is contrary to everything we are being told today, but Milly did her homework before establishing her gelato and sorbetto factory on the second floor. Her recipes come from a respected gelato house in Italy, where they have been producing the refreshing, low or no fat product since the 1800's. She continues the tradition of using only fresh fruit juices and natural extracts to as flavoring.



Favorites and unique flavors like grapefruit and lemon mint

fluffy naturally, producing a satisfying treat drastically lower in fat, sugar and calories than traditional ice cream.

Unique flavors found nowhere else are a revelation. For a delightful surprise and pure refreshment, sample the grapefruit, passion fruit or carrot sorbetto; the rich, dark, sugar-free chocolate gelato is absolutely sinful, without the guilty conscience! They also have a unique collection of yogurt gelatos swirled with fresh fruit sorbetto in delightful combinations.

Lecca Lecca offers an attractive lunch menu including quiche made with only fresh vegetables, and sandwiches on crusty bread they prepare in their own bakery. Indulge in the soup of the day for a

hearty sampling of authentic Aruban cooking.

Opened Monday through Saturday from 9:30 AM until 7:00 PM; it is a must do while in Oranjestad for a refreshing treat, with the emphasis on FRESH!



Fresh vegetable quiche

There are absolutely no artificial colorants or preservatives in the gelato and sorbetto, which is produced fresh daily; leftovers at the end of the day are donated to children's homes Casa Cuna or Imeldahoff. They have over 60 flavors on their roster with 18 available at the shop each day, including at least one sugar-free and one-gluten free for those with special dietary needs. All the gelato is made from organic milk flown in from Italy, guaranteed free of steroids and antibiotics. Lecca Lecca pasteurizes the milk in their factory, to be sure there are no chemicals used in the process. The end product is whipped light and



Tutti frutti a blend of fresh exotic fruits

Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters,

caterers, airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for

homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee.



parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All

Concierge services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.





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SPORTS

Tennis: Murray faces tough start to defence of Japan Open



TOKYO (AFP) - In-form Andy Murray will defend the Japan Open starting today fresh from winning his first Grand Slam at the US Open, but he faces a tricky encounter in the form of a resurgent Gael Monfils.

The 25-year-old Murray, the top seed in Tokyo, enjoyed a double victory by beating Rafael Nadal of Spain in the final last year and then came back on court to add the doubles title with his brother Jamie.

Since then he won his first Slam at Flushing Meadows earlier this month by beating defending champion Novak Djokovic in a thrilling four-hour, 53-minute final. Prior to

that the Briton took gold at the London Games.

But Monfils of France, runner-up in Tokyo in 2010, represents a difficult start. The winner faces Albert Ramos of Spain or Lukas Lacko of Slovakia in the second round.

"I have a tough first-round match against Monfils. I played him five times and lost to him a couple of times. He is a great athlete, so that's a tough match to start," said Murray.

"Also I play the doubles with my brother. We managed to win the tournament last year. I hope we can have another good tournament."

Murray has a 3-2 win-loss record against Monfils, who is targeting a return to the top 10

in the world as he steps up his return from a knee injury that kept him out for four months.

Murray admitted that he is "a little bit" tired after winning the US Open, as the season reaches its climax. He spent two-and-a-half weeks at home with friends and family after New York.

"I think a lot of players are at this stage a little bit tired mentally and physically as well. You need to find the best way of managing that for the last couple of months of the year," said Murray.

"I also would like to play well in the tour finals in London. I didn't have the chance to do that last year. It was a very disappointing way to finish the year."

"I want to make sure I'm 100 percent fit for that tournament and try to finish the year well there."

Murray is in the same quarter of the draw with Beijing Olympic doubles gold medalist Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland, the seventh seed, and in the same half with third seed Janko Tipsarevic of Serbia.

Tipsarevic, the winner at Stuttgart this season, will play Gilles Simon of France in his opener. The sixth seed Milos Raonic, winner at San Jose and Chennai, will take on Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic.

The 2008 Japan Open champion Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic will spearhead the bottom half as the second seed. He will play Benoit Paire of France in the first round.

Also in the bottom half are local hope Kei Nishikori, the eighth seed, Juan Monaco of Argentina, the fourth seed, and the fifth seed Nicolas Almagro of Spain.

Cricket: India, Australia win as semis race heats up



Lakshmipathy Balaji was India's most successful bowler

COLOMBO (AFP) - India crushed arch-rivals Pakistan and Australia put on another Shane Watson show as the race to the World Twenty20 semi-finals heated up on Sunday.

Virat Kohli hit an unbeaten 78 off 61 balls as India, who would have been knocked out had they lost, bowled out Pakistan for 128 and then surpassed the modest target in 17 overs with eight wickets in hand.

Australia also defeated South Africa by the same margin in the first match of the double-header, after Watson claimed 2-29 and smashed 70 off 47 balls to win his fourth successive man-of-the-match award.

Australia restricted the Proteas to 146-5 and won by the

18th over to record their second win in a row in group two, but will still need to beat Pakistan today to make the semi-finals.

Australia lead the group with four points, India and Pakistan have two each, while South Africa have lost both matches so far.

India will also have to beat South Africa in today's second match to remain in the hunt.

A sell-out crowd of 35,000 at the Premadasa stadium, including Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapakse, saw India continue their stranglehold on Pakistan in major world meets.

Pakistan have never beaten India in either the 50-over World Cup or the World Twenty20, in which they contested a thrilling final in 2007.



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Baseball: YANKEES CLOSER TO PLAYOFFS

TORONTO - The New York Yankees took advantage of a shaky Toronto bullpen and moved closer to locking up a playoff spot by coming back to defeat the Blue Jays 9-6 at Rogers Centre on Sunday.

Toronto (70-89) had a four-run lead after five innings but New York chipped away and pulled even in the seventh. The Yankees added two more runs in the eighth inning and put the game away with two runs in the ninth.

The New York Yankees' once-ten-game lead is gone. With exactly one three-game



series left for each team, the Yankees are tied with the Baltimore Orioles in the American League East. The race has come down to the final three days of the season from October 1-3 when the Yankees host the Boston Red Sox while the Orioles travel to the Tampa Bay Rays.

Meanwhile the the Orioles

took the field and defeated the Red Sox, 6-3. A loss by the Los Angeles Angels to the Texas Rangers in the first game of a doubleheader Sunday would have clinched the Orioles' first playoff berth since 1997.

The Orioles and the Yankees are tied for first in the American League.

Swimmers cross to former Senegal slave island



GOREE (AFP) - Hundreds of swimmers splashed into the waters off the Senegalese capital Dakar on Sunday and swam several kilometres (miles) of open ocean to reach an island known as a symbol of the slave trade. About 500 people participated in the 25th annual swim to Goree Island, including diplomats, amateurs and licensed competitors. The amateur race spanned 4.5 kilometres (2.8 miles) from the tip of Dakar to the island, while the more serious racers started at a Dakar suburb and swam 7.8 kilometres (4.8 miles). The winner of the long race was Mame Samb, a Senegalese who covered the distance in one hour and nine minutes. Goree Island with its famous "Slave House" has been a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1978.

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Football: Inter beat Fiorentina to secure first San Siro win

MILAN (AFP) - Inter Milan finally put their San Siro curse to bed Sunday by defeating Fiorentina 2-1 in a pulsating end-to-end match.

City rivals Inter and AC Milan had both failed to win at their shared ground in their first three league games, prompting Italian media to suggest both were subject to a San Siro curse.

Milan got that monkey off their back with a 2-0 win over Cagliari in midweek and on Sunday Inter put in a convincing performance against an impressive Fiorentina side to secure a fourth win in six games and move up to third.

Juventus, who are unbeaten in their last 45 games, sit top on 16 points with Napoli second on goal difference and Inter and Lazio in third and fourth respectively on 12 points.

Diego Milito opened the scoring from the penalty spot in the 17th minute, beating Emiliano Viviano in the Fiorentina goal following a handball in the area after Brazilian midfielder Coutinho's mauling run down the left.

Antonio Cassano was then left unmarked on the left side of the area and coolly latched on to a long pass following Esteban Cambiasso's dummy on the edge of the area to punish Fiorentina's slack marking in the 34th minute.

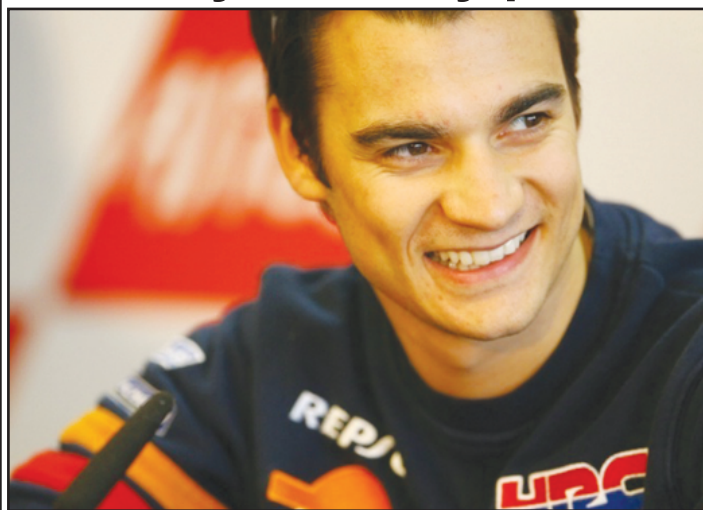
Fiorentina fought back, however, and when Chilean David Pizarro was allowed time to waltz across the edge of the area his cross was met with a powerful Romulo header which reduced the arrears.

A minute before half-time Milito missed a golden chance to extend Inter's lead when he shot from the edge of the area only to see the ball go wide.

Fiorentina were reduced to 10 men on the hour mark when Gonzalez Rodriguez, who had been booked earlier, was sent off for a needless foul on Japanese defender Yuto Nagatomo.

Both sides produced further chances to score, with Viviano pulling off a great save from Milito's close-range snap shot following a corner and then second-half substitute Luca Toni seeing his powerful header go wide.

Motorcycling: Pedrosa rides to timely birthday present



ALCANIZ, Spain, (AFP) - Dani Pedrosa gave himself a timely birthday present with a dazzling victory in the Aragon Grand Prix MotoGP race here on Sunday. The Spanish Honda rider, who turned 27 on Saturday, came home clear of compatriot and overall series leader Jorge Lorenzo, on a Yamaha, while Andrea Dovizioso was third on a Yamaha a whisker ahead of team-mate Cal Crutchlow. Pedrosa, who was winning his third race in the last four MotoGPs, narrowed the gap on Lorenzo in the standings to 33 points with four races to go and made up for his disastrous outing at San Marino a fortnight ago where he went out on the first lap. "It was a tough weekend because of the cold conditions and rain yesterday and I had all the things in my head from the last race," said Pedrosa, a former 125cc and two-time 250cc world champion. "It was hard to keep calm in the weekend but today it was good for me and a good race."

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Heart attack victim Sno taken ill during match

THE HAGUE (AFP) - NEC Nijmegen's Dutch midfielder Evander Sno, who suffered a major heart attack two years ago, was taken to hospital as a precaution after falling ill during Saturday night's game at Feyenoord, the club announced on Sunday. The 25-year-old complained of stomach pains and was replaced in the 34th minute but left the pitch and walked to the waiting ambulance unaided. Two years ago Sno suffered a heart attack while playing for Ajax's youth team, falling unconscious before being revived ten minutes later. Since that incident he has played wearing a defibrillator.